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Attorney Docket # 5253-27



**Expedited Procedure
Technology Center 3600**

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Peter THURMANN et al.

Serial No.: 10/699,229

Filed: October 31, 2003

For: Piston-Cylinder Unit

Examiner: Schwartz, C. P.
Group Art: 3683

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F. Brice Faller

Name of applicant, assignee or Registered Representative

F. Brice Faller
Signature

March 7, 2005
Date of Signature

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

SIR:

Responsive to the final Office Action dated January 6, 2005, the allowability of claims 8-12 and 14-21 is noted with appreciation. Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-7 and 13 is requested for the reasons following.

Applicants' claim 1 recites a piston-cylinder unit comprising a pressure tube formed with an end wall having an end face which faces radially inward to define a central opening, a piston rod extending through the opening to form a ring shaped gap between the piston rod and the end face, and a heat shrink sleeve *extending axially into the ring shaped gap, enclosing the end face.*